27th January 1931]

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to paragraph 5 of the Cottage Industries Committee's report relating to handspinning and handweaving published in G.O. No. 864, Development, dated 21st April 1930, which has been placed at the disposal of the press. The recommendations made by the Committee are under the consideration of Government.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—"When is the Government likely to come to a decision on this matter?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"As quickly as possible."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether, in view of the policy of the Government to encourage these cottage industries, they will be pleased to rescind the order prohibiting Co-operative Societies from undertaking these cottage industries?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"I am sorry I have nothing to do with that question."

Working of Calix drills of the Industries Department.

* 96 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Calix drills of the Industries Department are generally fitted up with steam-engines; and

(*b*) whether in view of the scarcity of fuel in parts of the province a crude oil-engine or a kerosene-engine has been or will be substituted for the steam engine to work some of the drills?

A.—(*a*) The Industries Department at present owns three Calix drills, two of which are run with steam-engines and the third with an oil-engine.

(*b*) The steam-engine is preferred as it conduces to more efficient drilling than any other type of prime-mover. Besides, it is considered to be the most dependable power unit and its life is comparatively longer than that of an oil-engine. For these reasons the oil-engines which were originally used for the Calix drills of the department were replaced by steam-engines when they became unserviceable.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether steam-engine is always superior to oil-engine under any condition or is it superior with reference to particular conditions only?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"Expert opinion is to the effect that a steam-engine is always more efficient than an oil-engine for this purpose."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Is the hon. Minister aware that exactly reverse is the opinion of the Mysore Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"I have not heard it."